

281—100.4(78GA,ch1174) Review process.

100.4(1) Task force. The department shall form a task force to review applications for financial assistance and to provide recommendations to the school budget review committee. The department shall invite participants from large, medium, and small school districts, the state fire marshal's office, education and professional organizations, and other individuals knowledgeable in school infrastructure and construction issues. The department, in consultation with the task force, shall establish the parameters and criteria for awarding grants based on the information listed in 2000 Iowa Acts, chapter 1174, sections 26 to 28, which includes greater priority to be given to the following:

- a. A school district with a lower capacity per pupil.
- b. A school district whose plans address specific occupant fire and health safety issues.
- c. A school district collaborating or reorganizing as described in subrule 100.3(2) "m."
- d. A school district for which a local option sales and services tax for school infrastructure has not been imposed or a school district that receives minimal revenues from a local option sales and services tax for school infrastructure when the total enrollment of the school district is considered.

100.4(2) Task force review. The task force, or a subcommittee of the task force and its designees, shall review each application and make recommendations to the school budget review committee regarding awards of financial assistance based on the evidence provided by the applicant pursuant to subrule 100.3(2) and the criteria listed in subrule 100.4(3). A reviewer shall not review any application in which the reviewer has an interest, direct or indirect.

100.4(3) Ranking of applicants. Applicants shall be ranked on a point system within each size category, and awards shall be recommended in rank order beginning with highest points. Applicants which do not receive funding within the applicable size categories will be grouped and ranked on the same point system without regard to size category, and awards will be recommended in rank order beginning with highest points. In the event that two or more school districts tie for a grant award, the applications will be reviewed by one or more additional reviewers until the tie is broken.

The maximum points for an application shall be 505 points. The maximum points for each criterion shall be as follows:

- a. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for the description of the infrastructure needs and the project proposed to alleviate those needs is 50 points with a maximum of 25 points for the description of infrastructure needs and 25 points for the project proposed to alleviate those needs.

- b. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for evidence that the infrastructure need is related to fire or health safety issues and for the severity of the deficiency is 75 points.

- c. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for need based on capacity per pupil is 75 points. The points will be calculated as follows: $[(1 - (\text{the school district's capacity per pupil} / \text{the capacity per pupil at the fortieth percentile})) \times \text{maximum points possible}] \times \text{adjustment factor}$. The minimum number of points that can be awarded for need based on capacity per pupil is 0 points. The points will be awarded in relationship to the rank order with the highest points awarded for the lowest capacity per pupil. For the purpose of this paragraph, the adjustment factor is 75 points divided by the result of the formula prior to multiplying by the adjustment factor for the lowest ranked district. The purpose of the adjustment factor is to allow 75 points to be awarded to the lowest capacity district.

- d. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for previous efforts to secure funding within the past five years is 50 points awarded as follows:

- (1) The maximum number of points that can be awarded for previous efforts to secure funding within the past five years using a bond issue referendum is 15 points for previously attempted and passed, 10 points for previously attempted and failed, and 0 points for not previously attempted.

- (2) The maximum number of points that can be awarded for previous efforts to secure funding within the past five years using the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy is 10 points for previously attempted and passed, 5 points for previously attempted and failed, and 0 points for not previously attempted.

- (3) The maximum number of points that can be awarded for previous efforts to secure funding within the past five years using the regular physical plant and equipment levy is 5 points with 1 point for

each year that the board has imposed the levy during the past five years, and 0 points for not previously imposed.

(4) The maximum number of points that can be awarded for efforts to utilize past, current, and future resources for school infrastructure activities is 20 points.

e. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for the description of the nature of the project, its relationship to improving educational opportunities for students, and its ability to meet or exceed educational standards is 60 points.

f. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for the comprehensive, districtwide infrastructure plan and the description of how this project fits within that plan is 40 points.

g. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for the evidence that the school district has entered into an innovative collaboration with one or more other school districts, has reorganized, or has initiated a resolution to reorganize is 80 points.

h. The maximum number of points that can be awarded because the school district receives no revenues or minimal revenues from a local option sales and services tax for school infrastructure is 75 points. The points will be calculated as follows: $[(1 - (\text{school district local option sales and services tax per pupil} / \text{statewide average local option sales and services tax capacity per pupil})) \times \text{maximum points possible}] \times \text{adjustment factor}$. The minimum number of points that can be awarded because the school district receives no revenues or minimal revenues from a local option sales and services tax for school infrastructure is 0 points. The number of pupils for this calculation will be the same enrollment number used for the calculation of sales tax capacity per pupil. For the purpose of this paragraph, the adjustment factor is 75 points divided by the result of the formula prior to multiplying by the adjustment factor for the lowest ranked district. The purpose of the adjustment factor is to allow 75 points to be awarded to the lowest capacity district.

100.4(4) School budget review committee. The school budget review committee shall review the recommendations for awards from the task force. The committee shall make recommendations on awards to the department for final consideration.